

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NATO 04818 061907Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00  
INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00  
PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 MC-02 /055 W  
-----061911Z 086771 /43

O 061901Z JUN 77  
FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4046  
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA  
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA  
USNMR SHAPE BE  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 04818

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MASS, MPOL, NATO, PO  
SUBJECT: TANKS FOR PORTUGAL: FRG DECISIONS

REF: STATE 109485 (DTG 141702Z MAY 77)

1. FRG DEFENSE ADVISOR SCHUENEMANN CONTACTED DEPUTY  
DEFENSE ADVISOR JUNE 6 TO INFORM US THAT THE FEDERAL  
REPUBLIC HAD DECIDED TO PROVIDE 18 REPEAT 18 M48A5 TANKS  
TO PORTUGAL BY UTILIZING U.S. ARMY FACILITIES FOR  
UPGRADING OF THE M48A2 TANKS WHICH IT WILL PROVIDE.

2. THIS DECISION WILL BE RATIFIED BY THE APPLICABLE  
BUNDESTAG COMMITTEES, HOPEFULLY BEFORE THEIR SUMMER  
VACATION. SINCE FORMAL APPROVAL MUST AWAIT THE RECON-  
VENING OF THE BUNDESTAG, SCHUENEMANN ESTIMATES THAT THE  
FRG WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE A FORMAL COMMITMENT BY ABOUT  
1 OCTOBER OF THE DM 25 MILLION WHICH IT HAD EARLIER  
PROMISED PORTUGAL, PLUS A LIMITED ADD-ON TO COVER THE  
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COST OF UPGRADING M48A2 TANKS TO A5 STATUS.

3. SCHUENEMANN ALSO TOLD US THAT THE FACTOR THAT  
CONVINCED HIS GOVERNMENT TO PAY FOR MODERN TANKS FOR  
PORTUGAL WAS THE EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS OF THE U.S. TO  
DIVERT TANKS FROM THE TOP OF OUR OWN CONVERSION OUTPUT.  
THE FRG HAS ALREADY INFORMED THE PORTUGUESE DELEGATION

TO NATO WHICH IS, OF COURSE, DELIGHTED WITH THIS  
DECISION.

4. COMMENT: WE AGREE WITH REFTTEL THAT IT WILL BE VERY  
IMPORTANT NOW TO INSURE THAT THESE TANKS ARE CLEARLY  
IDENTIFIED TO PORTUGAL AND OTHERS AS BEING DONATED BY  
THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC, AND NOT BY THE UNITED STATES.  
END COMMENT. BENNETT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977NATO04818  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 109485 (DTG 141702Z MAY 77  
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**Subject:** TANKS FOR PORTUGAL: FRG DECISIONS  
**TAGS:** MASS, MPOL, PO, NATO  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009